



Benjamin "Big Ben" Smith

June 29, 1977 - June 26, 2022

Benjamin "Big Ben" Smith, Extraordinary father, husband, son, brother, and friend, age 44, passed away unexpectedly in a tragic accident on June 26, 2022. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Clyde McCoy and Patricia Kay McCoy; and best friend, Ron Wolcott. Ben will be deeply missed by his loving wife of 3 years, Nicole; sons, Benjamin Wyatt (13), Myles David (5); stepdaughters, Jocelyn (19), Ella (17), and Addison (15); parents, Mike and Jackie Watkins; siblings and their families, Eddie (Dawn) and their children, Austin, Alaina, and Kicston; Stacy and her son Brian; Michaelyn and her children, Carter, Zoey, and Jozey; Katie (Corey) Black, children, Madison and Kensie; father-and-mother-in-law, Darwin and Sharon Hemmer; his Hamster Brothers, and many friends in the motorcycle, tractor, equestrian, carriage, and blacksmithing communities.

Family would like to express special thanks to Dennis and Julie Davis of Erickson Farmstead, Brad Slawson Jr. of Route 65, and special friends Michael Casey and Grey Lampkin, and the entire Hamster family for all their love and support during this incredibly difficult time.

Ben was an avid fisherman, hunter, blacksmith, builder, and tinkerer. There was nothing he couldn't do. "Can't" was not in his vocabulary, "There is nothing you can't do, there may just be things you don't want to do." He never met a stranger. He was loved by all, and if you didn't love him, there was something wrong with you.

The funeral for Ben will be held Friday, July 1, 2022 at 11 AM with visitation

starting at 10 AM at Eagle Brook, 1100 West Main St. US 10, Anoka. In lieu of flowers, donations in Ben's name can be made to Lifescape Foundation, a non-profit organization which provides resources to enhance the lives of children and adults served by LifeScape which he was very passionate about.
<https://www.lifescapesd.org/foundation/support-lifescape>

Big Ben was larger than life, his boots can never be filled. His absence leaves a hole in the hearts of those he loved. He leaves us with his favorite saying "Y'all need more Jesus."

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 1. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Eagle Brook Church - Anoka
1100 US Highway 10
Anoka, MN 55303

Church Service

JUL 1. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Eagle Brook Church - Anoka
1100 US Highway 10
Anoka, MN 55303

Tribute Wall



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket* was purchased for the family of Benjamin "Big Ben" Smith.



June 30, 2022 at 02:51 PM



“ *Arrive in Style* was purchased for the family of Benjamin "Big Ben" Smith.



June 30, 2022 at 11:58 AM



“ *Pink Tribute Spray* was purchased for the family of Benjamin "Big Ben" Smith.



June 30, 2022 at 11:18 AM



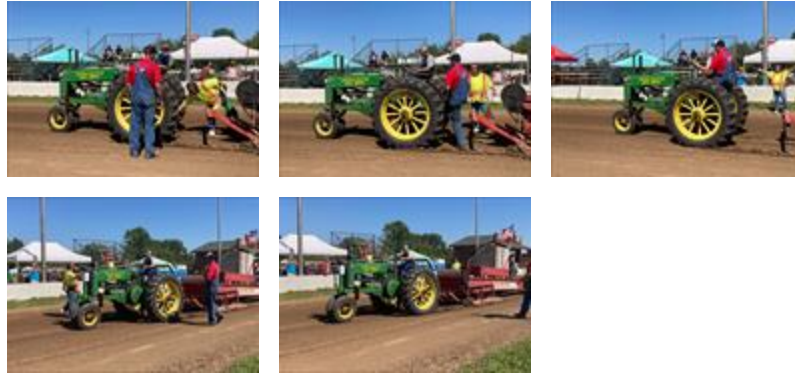
“ *Medium Dish Garden* was purchased for the family of Benjamin "Big Ben" Smith.



June 30, 2022 at 10:01 AM

AL

“ 73 files added to the album Ben - Pulling photos



Alicia Larson - June 30, 2022 at 09:54 AM

MD

“ *I really enjoyed chatting with Ben about things we did with our horses, putting up hay, and even once in a while about work stuff! My heart aches for his family and friends.....*

Mitch Dubois - June 30, 2022 at 08:22 AM

LJ

“ *The safety community lost a wonderful, passionate and bigger than life soul this week. He will be missed at our safety meetings and conferences and his kindness was over the top! Sending prayers to his family and all that will miss him in the coming months and beyond. In Peace,*

Lidia Dilley Jacobson - June 29, 2022 at 11:22 PM

BG

“ I met Big Ben in April 2019 at CLCP training in Madison Wisconsin. He was larger than life. He was Big Ben and I was Little Ben. Our friendship grew over the 2 years we traveled to Madison. Our last training was May 2021 and Big Ben told me we were going fishing on Lake Mendota. He brought his boat to Madison and we went fishing after class. We caught some Smallmouth and talked about work, families, hopes and dreams. What an afternoon. We went to Taco Bell to top it off.

He called me a few weeks ago to congratulate me on a promotion here in Texas. He was class and I'll miss him. We all will miss him. Rest easy Big Ben. I'll raise a cold one for you tonight, amigo.

Ben Greene - June 29, 2022 at 09:49 PM

LF

“ Love Your Northway Family purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Benjamin "Big Ben" Smith.



Love Your Northway Family - June 29, 2022 at 08:47 PM

AD

“ A River Runs Through It~Norman Maclean

.....had I told him everything. And finally I said to him, "maybe all I really know about Paul is that he was a fine fisherman." "You know more than that," my father said; "he was beautiful."

Ayla Deskins - June 29, 2022 at 06:02 PM

SS

“ Oh boy, was it a sad day when I got the news of Ben’s accident. I recall when Ben interviewed at ECE. What I thought of him proved to be true. He was confident, yet humble. He was strong and tough, yet kind. I often chatted with him in his office or in the field. He was always thinking of the wellbeing of others. He was a gentleman in every sense of the word. He will be missed. Steve Shurts

Steve Shurts - June 29, 2022 at 03:18 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Benjamin "Big Ben" Smith.



June 29, 2022 at 01:43 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Benjamin "Big Ben" Smith.



June 29, 2022 at 01:31 PM